

need of our flag. In 1976, the Ocklawaha Chapter created and presented Bicentennial flags to the cities of Eustis, Mount Dora, and Tavares.

The Ocklawaha Chapter is dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and safeguarding America's future through better education for children. Their motto encapsulates that philosophy: "for God, Home, and Country." Through the strong leadership displayed by the Ocklawaha Chapter, they have earned both state and national recognition. They have been honored with many awards including DAR Project Patriot, Celebrate America Award, Chapter Achievement Level 1 and 2, Bronze Honoring the Flag, State and National Honor Roll, Literacy Promotion, Service for Veterans, and American History.

The excellence with which the Ocklawaha Chapter serves the Central Florida community is evident from their history and recognitions. I commend them for their many achievements and I am pleased to congratulate them on the celebration of their 100th anniversary. May their leadership, service and patriotism inspire many to follow in their footsteps.

**HONORING NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT A. LUTHER FOLLOWING HIS
PASSING ON FEBRUARY 20, 2016**

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor New Hampshire State Representative Robert Luther of Laconia, New Hampshire.

On February 20, 2016, the State of New Hampshire lost a true public servant with Robert's passing. During this time of great sadness, we remember and celebrate the life of not only a dedicated law enforcement officer and legislator, but also a father, husband and friend.

Representative Luther devoted his life to serving our communities and protecting our families, first as a member of the U.S. Navy from 1965–1968, then as a police officer and security officer in the Laconia area from 1973–2009. A devoted public servant, he stayed engaged in local and state issues, serving as a member of the Laconia City Council and most recently as a member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives.

As his family, friends, neighbors and all who knew Robert would say, he was really one of a kind. The dedication and compassion he demonstrated during his years of service are not—and will not—be forgotten. So let us take a moment today and pause, reflect, and celebrate the life of Representative Robert Luther.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on Tuesday, March 1, 2016. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following ways:

Yes on Roll Call No. 103—H.R. 136, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1103 USPS Building 1103 in Camp Pendleton, California, as the Camp Pendleton Medal of Honor Post Office.

Yes on Roll Call No. 104—The Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3735, the Maya Angelou Memorial Post Office.

**COLONY MEADOWS ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL CELEBRATES 25 YEARS**

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Colony Meadows Elementary School on 25 years of nurturing and educating our young children.

For the past quarter of a century, teachers and educators at Colony Meadows in Sugar Land, TX, have helped to develop the bright minds of students in a fun and educational atmosphere.

A lot has changed since this school opened its doors 25 years ago but one thing has remained the same—Colony Meadows commitment to excellence. It has remained a great place for our future leaders to learn and grow. Thank you to the many teachers and faculty members who've worked so hard to make CMES great throughout the years.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Colony Meadows Elementary School on 25 successful years of educating our leaders of tomorrow.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my floor vote on roll call vote number 102. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "yes" on roll call vote number 102.

**HONORING NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE POLICE LT. JAMES 'JIM'
GERAGHTY AFTER HIS PASSING
ON FEBRUARY 27, 2016**

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Granite State hero and fallen state police officer Lt. James Geraghty of Bedford, New Hampshire.

On February 27, 2016, the State of New Hampshire lost a true Granite State hero when Lt. Geraghty succumbed to cancer. During this time of great sadness, we remember and celebrate the life of not only a tremendous police officer, but also a father, husband and friend.

Geraghty devoted his life to protecting our families and our communities through his military service with the U.S. Army, and his time

as a police officer in the Town of Hudson before joining the New Hampshire State Police.

As his family, friends, neighbors and fellow police officers knew, Geraghty was really one of a kind. The dedication and compassion he demonstrated during his years of service are not—and will not—be forgotten.

It takes a remarkable individual like James Geraghty to risk their life daily to keep us safe and protect us from harm. So let us take a moment today and pause, reflect, and celebrate the life and valor of Lt. Geraghty. He put his life on the line to protect the Granite State, and we are forever grateful.

**TRIBUTE TO INDEPENDENT
NEWSGROUP EDITOR BILL
CONSTINE**

HON. JOHN R. MOOLENAAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Independent Newsgroup editor, Bill Constine. As the son of Vincent and Veronica, the husband of Beth and the father of Mindy, Chad and Kevin, Bill made many contributions to Owosso, Shiawassee County and the great state of Michigan.

Bill's news career began in 1973 at WOAP, where he started as a DJ and became a popular radio personality. Under his leadership as news director, the station was recognized by the Michigan Associated Press for its excellence. Bill would go on to work at The Flint Journal and then WJSZ, a local radio station that he owned until 1994. For the past 25 years, Bill worked as a reporter and editor at the Independent Newsgroup, which publishes local weekly and biweekly papers in Shiawassee County, bringing our communities the local news they need.

As a leader, Bill challenged his employees to go out of their comfort zone, but never allowed them to fail. He took people under his wing and helped them discover a love for writing. Known for his great attention to detail, enthusiasm for pursuing stories, caring manner for his staff and his passion for Shiawassee County history, Bill's positive impact on the community will be felt for generations.

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan, I am honored today to recognize Bill Constine for his lifetime of work as an editor and community leader.

**IN RECOGNITION OF MEDAL OF
HONOR RECIPIENT SENIOR CHIEF
SPECIAL WARFARE OPERATOR
(SEAL) EDWARD C. BYERS, JR.,
UNITED STATES NAVY**

HON. ROBERT E. LATTI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Mr. LATTI. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize United States Navy Senior Chief Special Warfare Operator (SEAL) and Ohio native, Edward Byers, as the recipient of the Medal of Honor for his brave and heroic actions during Operation Enduring Freedom on December 8–9, 2012.